

**Amendments to the Claims:**

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This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Claims 20-23 have been canceled without prejudice.

1. (Previously Presented): An apparatus, comprising:

a chromatic dispersion compensation module including

a beam spatial orientation device to separate an optical signal into a first polarized light signal and a second polarized light signal, the second polarized light signal being the orthogonal polarization of the first polarized light signal;

a wavelength-dependent delay path coupled to the beam spatial orientation device, wherein the wavelength-dependent delay path includes three or more tunable cascaded resonator cavities and each resonator cavity is tuned to a different center wavelength to produce a distortion of the optical signal due to variation in the chromatic dispersion across the passband that incurs a Q-penalty of less than one decibel; and

a polarization rotator coupled to the wavelength-dependent delay path such that the first polarized light signal reflects into the wavelength-dependent delay path in substantially the opposite direction of the second polarized light signal.

2. (Original): The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

a radiation paralleling device coupled to an input output terminal; the radiation paralleling device also coupled to the beam spatial orientation device.

3. (Previously Presented): The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the first polarized light signal is a transverse electric wave.